Smuggling in Bhuj

2449. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL:
SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHUTT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that there are smuggling activities on large scale in Bhuj, Banaskanta District of Gujarat near Rajasthan for a long time;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some foreign fishermen came with their boats for smuggling purposes in the Bhuj area;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government or proposed to be taken to plug the smuggling activities in the area; and

(d) the articles in amount seized by the Customs authorities during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Intelligence reports and seizure statistics do not suggest large scale smuggling activities in the Bhuj & Banaskantha districts of Gujarat.

(b) There has been only one case in July, 1994 when five Pakistani fishermen were found involved in smuggling of 256 Kg. of Charas.

(c) Anti-smuggling agencies are maintaining a high alert in deterring any smuggling activity. Coastal, Air and Sea patrolling remains intensified in the vulnerable coastal areas on the west coast.

(d) The details of articles seized by the Customs authorities during the last three years in the district of Bhuj and Banaskantha are given below:

Year	Value of *contraband seized (Rs. in lakhs)	Narcotic drug seized (in kgs.)
1994-95	Nil	256 Kg. (Charas) 1.55 kg. (Heroin)
1995-96	6.11	4.8 Kg. (Charas)
1996-97	11.99	1.0 kg. (Heroin)

* other than Narcotics

Report of fiscal policy by Dr. Manmohan Singh

2450 PROF. RAM KAPSE:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether government have received the report of Dr. Manmohan Singh, former Finance Minister, regarding fiscal policy of Government;

(b) if so, what are the salient features and recommendations made in the report; and

(c) action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Referring of Pay Commission report to Committee

2451. SHRI LAKKHIRAM AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answers to Starred Question 54 and unstarred Question 1076 given in the Rajya Sabha on 25th February, 1997 and 4th March, 1997 respectively and state:

(a) the reasons in detail for referring the report of the Fifth Pay Commission to the Empowered Committee;

(b) whether finance Ministry was not empowered to accept the report; and

(c) by when the report is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) In accordance with the established procedure, the recommendations of the Pay Commission are initially screened by a Committee of Secretaries before the recommendations are placed before the Government for appropriate decision.

(c) The accepted recommendations of the Pay Commission will be implemented as soon as feasible.

Steps to Recover Bad Debt From Business Houses

2452. DR. GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the bad debt the 15 large business houses owe to the nationalised Bank, Details thereof; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to recover the bad debt from these business houses and others?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the information is maintained by the banks borrower-wise and not large business house-wise. As per the scheme for collection and dissemination of information regarding defaulter borrowers having default of Rs. 1 crore and above, the total default of 15 top borrowers of the nationalised banks as on 30.3.1996 stood at Rs. 875.96 crore.

(b) The banks have been advised to formulate a loan policy and a loan recovery policy with the approval of their Board of Directions and also set up a 'Recovery Cell' at head Office under the charge of a General Manager progress of recovery is reviewed by the CMDs of respective banks on monthly basis and also reviewed by the Board on quarterly basis. The setting up of Debt Recovery tribunals in the last couple of years is also expected to help banks in recovery of certain disputed or defaulted dues.

Implicit Subsidisation

2453. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total "Implicit Subsidisation" in our country given by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): Implicit subsidisation is involved where the cost of service rendered by an organisation which is funded by Government, is not fully recovered. It could be a departmental undertaking, medical and health services, family welfare programmes, water and power supply, general and technical education, etc. Such subsidies by Government are, however, not separately quantified in the budget documents.

Treaty to Check Exim Frauds

2454. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unscrupulous exporters to Moscow cause a loss of around Rs. 600 crore annually to the exchequer;

(b) whether India and Russia have agreed to sign a treaty soon to check exim frauds as reported in the Indian Express dated 10th February, 1997;

(c) how many companies for the last two years were found involved in large scale misuse of the Escrow account and export scheme; and

(d) what action Government have taken so far in this regard?